
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT

US Army Corps
of Engineers

PUBLIC NOTICE

NUMBER: LOP 96-1

DATE: June 29, 2001

Regulatory Branch
333 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-2197

LETTER OF PERMISSION PROCEDURE GRAVEL MINING ACTIVITIES WITHIN HUMBOLDT COUNTY

INTRODUCTION: On August 19, 1996, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District (Corps) adopted a Letter of Permission (LOP 96-1) procedure for the authorization of certain gravel extraction activities in Humboldt County. The LOP 96-1 procedure was described in a public notice dated August 19, 1996. The purpose of the LOP 96-1 procedure is to streamline Section 404 Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1344) authorizations for gravel extraction activities and related work not posing significant adverse individual or cumulative impacts. In addition, the Corps regulates work in navigable waters of the United States pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403). Activities authorized by the LOP 96-1 procedure may also include Section 10 authorization. The LOP 96-1 procedure is valid until August 19, 2001.

Service on endangered species issues.

The Corps will work with the other resource agencies and the interested public to develop a revised LOP procedure for gravel operations commencing in 2002.

The proposed revised LOP procedure will be announced in a future public notice. Comments on the revised procedure will be solicited at that time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: For copies of the LOP procedure, please contact Ms. Diane Keehn at telephone 707-443-0855. Telephone inquiries may be directed to Mr. David Ammerman at 707-443-0855 (email dammerman@spd.usace.army.mil) or Ms. Jane Hicks at 415-977-8439 (email jhicks@spd.usace.army.mil).

TIME EXTENSION OF LOP 96-1 PROCEDURE: The Corps is hereby extending the expiration date of the LOP 96-1 procedure until October 31, 2001 in order to authorize gravel extraction activities for the entire 2001 gravel extraction season. The Corps informally coordinated with the other resource agencies prior to extending the expiration date of the LOP procedure.

The Corps has requested an amendment of the biological opinion for LOP 96-1 from the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Corps will also consult as appropriate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife